

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 /071 W
-----170110Z 092600 /75

R 161320Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7861
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
USMISSION NATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
EUCOM
USCINCEUR
CINCUSAFE
USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST IZMIR
DIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, TU
SUBJECT: ECEVIT CONTINUES EFFORTS TO FORM NEW TURKISH GOVERNMENT

REF: ANKARA 4587 (DTG 151445Z JUN 77)

1. IN A JUNE 15 STATEMENT (PUBLISHED IN JUNE 16 TURKISH
PRESS), PRIMIN-DESIGNATE ECEVIT SAID THAT NO ONE COULD SAY
AHEAD OF TIME WHETHER OR NOT THE GOVERNMENT HE WAS FORMING
WOULD WIN A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE; THE CONFIDENCE VOTE
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ITSELF WOULD DETERMINE THAT. (COMMENT: THIS REINFORCES EARLIER
STATEMENTS AND REPORTS TO THE EFFECT THAT ECEVIT PLANS TO FORM
A SINGLE-PARTY GOVERNMENT BASED ON HIS REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S
PARTY (RPP) RATHER THAN A COALITION WITH A CLEAR PARLIAMENTARY
MAJORITY.) ANSWERING QUESTIONS FROM NEWSMEN, HE SAID THAT
HE EXPECTED TO FINISH FORMING THE GOVERNMENT WITHIN A FEW DAYS.

2. ECEVIT CONSULTED YESTERDAY WITH THE LEADER AND MEMBERS OF THE "NATIONAL UNITY GROUP" (COMPOSED OF MOST OF THE LIFE SENATORS) AND WITH DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DP) CHAIRMAN BOZBEYLI. THE LATTER, WHILE NOTING HIS PARTY'S LIMITED POWER (IT HAS BEEN REDUCED TO ONE DEPUTY), SAID THAT HIS PARTY WOULD ASSIST IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW GOVERNMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ECEVIT REPORTEDLY PLANNED TO MEET TODAY WITH NATIONAL SALVATION PARTY (NSP) CHAIRMAN ERBAKAN, REPUBLICAN RELIANCE PARTY (RR) CHAIRMAN FEYZIOGLU, AND A GROUP OF PRESIDENTIALLY-APPOINTED SENATORS.

3. NSP CHAIRMAN ERBAKAN TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE JUNE 15 THAT, IF THE RPP SHOULD MAKE A COALITION PROPOSAL, THE NSP WOULD GIVE IT DUE CONSIDERATION. HE REITERATED THAT THE NSP WOULD VOTE AGAINST ANY GOVERNMENT WHICH WAS NOT SURE BEFOREHAND TO WIN A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE.

4. JUNE 16 PRESS REPORTS THAT THE NSP GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD HAS DECIDED THAT THE RPP MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO WIN BOTH THE SENATE PRESIDENCY AND THE SPEAKERSHIP OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY(NA). THERE WERE ALSO RUMORS IN SOME PAPERS THAT THE NEXT NA SPEAKER WOULD BE AN NSP MEMBER REGARDLESS OF WHICH OF THE TWO MAJOR PARTIES FORMS THE NEW GOVERNMENT, SINCE EITHER OF THEM WOULD GIVE THE POSITION AS A PRICE FOR THE NSP'S SUPPORT. OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS SEVERAL PRESS COMMENTATORS HAVE THEORIZED THAT THE NSP MIGHT BE WILLING TO SUPPORT AN RPP GOVERNMENT IN EXCHANGE FOR LEGISLATIVE OFFICES RATHER THAN INSISTING ON A FULL-FLEDGED COALITION. AFTER ITS JUNE 15 SESSION AGAIN FAILED TO BRING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FORTH ANY CANDIDATES FOR SPEAKER, THE NA POSTPONED ELECTION OF THE SPEAKER UNTIL JUNE 16. THE SENATE IS ALSO DUE TO ELECT NEW LEADERSHIP JUNE 16, WITH NO SHORTAGE OF CANDIDATES ANTICIPATED.

5. AMONG THE MORE INTERESTING RUMORS PRINTED IN THE JUNE 16 TURKISH PRESS ARE THE FOLLOWING:

-- LEFTIST DAILY POLITIKA IN ITS MAIN STORY SAID THAT AN RPP-RR COALITION IS ONE OF THE LEADING PROSPECTS FOR NEW GOVERNMENT, WITH SEVEN OR EIGHT NSP OR JUSTICE PARTY (JP) DEPUTIES LIKELY TO TRANSFER TO THE THREE-MEMBER RR DELEGATION IN PREFERENCE TO THE IDEOLOGICALLY MORE EXTREME ALTERNATIVE OF TRANSFERRING TO THE LEFT-OF-CENTER RPP.

-- SENSATIONALIST DAILY GUNAYDIN HEADLINES THAT THE RPP HAS FOUND SIX DEPUTIES WILLING TO TRANSFER TO IT; TOGETHER WITH 213 PRESENT RPP DEPUTIES, FOUR INDEPENDENTS, THREE RR DEPUTIES AND ONE DP, THIS WOULD GIVE 227 DEPUTIES, TWO MORE THAN HALF OF THE NA. THE GUNAYDIN ARTICLE ADDED THAT SOME OTHER DEPUTIES HAD AGREED TO ABSTAIN OR ABSENT THEMSELVES

FROM A CONFIDENCE VOTE. CONSERVATIVE PAPERS CARRIED CHARGES
THAT THE RPP HAD TRIED TO WIN OVER SOME JP DEPUTIES WITH
PROMISES OF MINISTERSHIPS AND GUARANTEED REELECTION, BUT
HAD BEEN DULY REFUFFED.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REFORM, POLITICAL LEADERS, PRESS CONFERENCES, VOTE OF CONFIDENCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ANKARA04608
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770216-0064
Format: TEL
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770652/aaaabtqg.tel
Line Count: 121
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c213077c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ANKARA 4587
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Aug-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2135576
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECEVIT CONTINUES EFFORTS TO FORM NEW TURKISH GOVERNMENT
TAGS: PINT, TU, (ECEVIT, BULENT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c213077c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009